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THE 53^D CHAPTER OF ISAIAH.

52 : 13-53 : 12.

Arranged according to its strophic structure.¹

I.

Behold, my servant shall deal wisely,
He shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high.
Like as many were astonished at thee
(His visage was so marred more than any man,
And his form more than the sons of men),
So shall he startle many nations ;
Kings shall shut their mouths at him ;
For that which had not been told them shall they see ;
And that which they had not heard shall they understand.

II.

Who hath believed our report ?
And to whom hath the arm of the LORD been revealed ?
For he grew up before him as a sucker,
And as a root out of the dry ground :
He hath no form nor comeliness ;
And when we see him there is no beauty that we should desire him.
He was despised and rejected of men ;
A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief :
And as one from whom men hide their face
He was despised, and we esteemed him not.

III.

Surely he hath borne our griefs,
And carried our sorrows :
Yet we did esteem him stricken,
Smitten of God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our transgressions.
He was bruised for our iniquities :
The chastisement of our peace was upon him ;

¹ Each of the strophes will be found to be longer than the preceding one.

And with his stripes we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray ;
We have turned every one to his own way ;
And the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

IV.

He was oppressed, yet he humbled himself and opened not his mouth ;
As a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
And as a sheep that before her shearers is dumb ;
Yea, he opened not his mouth.
By oppression and judgment he was taken away ;
And as for his generation, who *among them* considered
That he was cut off out of the land of the living ?
For the transgression of my people was he stricken.
And they made his grave with the wicked,
And with the rich in his death ;
Although he had done no violence,
Neither was any deceit in his mouth.

V.

Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him ; he hath put him to grief ;
When thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin,
He shall see *his* seed, he shall prolong his days,
And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.
He shall see of the travail of his soul, *and* shall be satisfied :
By his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many :
And he shall bear their iniquities.
Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great,
And he shall divide the spoil with the strong ;
Because he poured out his soul unto death,
And was numbered with the transgressors :
Yet he bare the sin of many,
And made intercession for the transgressors.